Department Updates

GTAs and Lecturers please pack up and clean your offices and office doors before the end of the semester. (You may leave your packed items in your office if you are returning in the Fall)

Czech Search: If you met with one or both candidates please submit an evaluation of job candidate form in 1111 OLDH by Friday April 21st at 5 pm.

Please return your class evaluations to 1111 OLDH by 4 pm Friday April 21st
Bravo!

Congratulations to Prof. Abla Hasan for her talk at Saint Paul United Methodist Church.

“‘A reading and a reflection from the Story of Mary in the Quran”, invited talk, Saint Paul United Methodist Church, Lincoln, April, 18, 2017.

Social Media Corner

@UNLModLang - Follow us on Twitter to stay up to date on department events and share interesting moments on campus or in class.

If you would like to create a hashtag for your event, class, club or anything let me know,

*OR* Tell me about research you are working on or a conference you are attending, send photos or quotes or interesting cultural facts from class.

If you have something interesting planned for a club or table meeting let me know and I will tweet it!

THANKS!

April Birthdays

Hideko Nishihara 3rd
Ikuho Amano 8th
Miriam Navas Hernandez 10th
Bethany Sanio 26th

Happy Birthday Everyone!

(Please let me know if I’m missing anyone’s birthday.)
School's out for the summer!
The Department of Modern Languages and Literatures hosted a Language Fair for high school students April 13.

The fair was held from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Nebraska Union and provided an opportunity for students studying various languages to test their skills. It also acted as a recruitment process for the department so they can see where current high school students are in their language studies.
Throughout the day, students participated in competitive events, which were judged by the faculty of the Department of Modern Languages. The events included drama, music, folk dance, poetry and poster design. Each student was required to participate in at least one event. Winners of the events were announced at the closing ceremony.

Of the events held, the fair included a conversation table that allowed students to test their skills in various languages and learn about new cultures. Russian, French, Spanish, Arabic and Czech were some of the languages included in the conversation tables.

Hana Waisserova, a Czech instructor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, ran the Czech conversation table. She became involved with the event through the department and said the conversation tables help with high school students’ language comprehension.

“We have a lot of fun here because we put out words which are sort of international and because the come from similar based Latin words, students were fascinated that they could recognize these words,” Waisserova said.

Waisserova said the department uses this event as a way to get to know potential UNL students.

“The language fair is the major drafting event for the Department of Modern Languages and we do have a variety of events,” Waisserova said.

Waisserova said students were able to get excited about the Czech language through the conversation tables.

“It was beautiful to see that students were actually amazed and that they actually know so much of the language,” Waisserova said. “We were able to talk to them about the region and history and we are also able to cheer for our Czech classes because Czech has been [at the university] for 110 years.”

Lyvia Osterstock, a sophomore pre-social science major at UNL, attended the fair to go to a 30 minute class about the Russian language.

“We learned how to introduce ourselves in Russian,” Osterstock said. “There was a lot of people there and we went through all these [Russian] words. We actually all did pretty good.”
Osterstock’s interest in Russian sparked after her roommate majored in Russian. She attended the event to be closer to what she was studying.

“My roommate is a Russian major and she’s the one who told me about it because she wanted me to meet all of her teachers,” Osterstock said.

Waisserova said the fair is a good way to celebrate cultures from all over the world and to inform students of languages they might not have known about before.

“I think it’s just to raise awareness that there’s all these languages, all these activities and also the fun associated with different cultures,” Waisserova said. “All Nebraskans could always benefit from being aware of diversity.”

news@dailynebraskan.com
Two guest speakers visited Prof. Isabel Velazquez’s SPAN 300B Advanced Reading and Writing class during Interpretation Week. Last Monday, April 10th, Jennifer Verhein, JD Statewide Language Access Coordinator for the Nebraska State Court Administrator’s Office, and Edie Cruise, Ph.D., certified Spanish interpreter for the NE Supreme Court visited. Verhein and Cruise spoke about legal and professional aspects of court interpretation. Cruise demonstrated sight, consecutive and sequential interpretation for the students. Students completed a sight interpretation exercise.

Wednesday April 12th, Brent Schmoker international recruitment specialist in the UNL Office of Admissions visited the class to talk about how he uses his translation and interpretation skills in his professional life.

Edie Cruise, certified court interpreter speaks with students about the many language skills involved in interpretation.
SPAN 300B students with guest speaker Brent Schmoker, international recruitment specialist in the UNL Office of Admissions.

Students complete an exercise in class
Hello, Dr. Simpson, Dr. Skretta, & UNL French Faculty!!!

Greetings from Papillion-La Vista Community Schools! I hope this email finds you well as you approach the conclusion of the semester and gear up for summer courses and plans. I imagine requests such as the one I’m about to make are not unique for you at this time of year—please bear with me and accept my thanks in advance for your attention and assistance.

Papillion-La Vista South High School is seeking a French teacher for the 2017-18 school year. The teacher would be joining an incredible staff of World Language teachers as well as a growing and progressive high school that puts a great deal of value on academics. We are very proud that our district has a 96% graduation rate and that is in large part due to the talented teaching staff and caring community. Our school district is the 4th largest in Nebraska with over 11,151 students. We are located in the Omaha Metro area and are a quick 35-40 minutes from Lincoln. 19% of PLC Schools' students are minority, 24% of PLC Schools' students are on the free or reduced cost lunch plans, 7% of PLC Schools' students are military.

Do you have any one that you would be willing to recommend apply for our position? I’m including a few items to guide potential candidates and please kindly forward my email to anyone who might be interested.

- Applicants are encouraged to get a feel for the dynamic and unique culture of Papillion-La Vista South by perusing the school website at https://plshs.plcschools.org/, Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/PapillionLaVistaSouthHighSchool, and Twitter account http://twitter.com/PLSHSTitans.
- Attached to this email you will find our Certified Salary Schedule and Benefits for the 2017-18 school year. Please feel free to pass this along as well. We are particularly strong in compensation for staff members that obtain a Masters and our insurance package is excellent and quite reasonable.
- The application for employment is online and accessible at this link: https://papillionlavista.tedk12.com/hire/ The position is set to close at 1:00 p.m. on April 26th but a review of applications and interviews are beginning immediately.
- Applicants are free to call either myself or Mr. Jeff Johnson, Papillion-La Vista South Principal at 402-829-4600 with questions.

Again, thank you so much for your assistance! Please let me know if I can ever return this favor. Have a wonderful day!

Kati Settles
Director of Human Resources
402-537-6267
ksettles@paplv.org
@PLCS_HR
Humanities Teaching Fellow, Quest University Canada

About the program:
The Teaching Fellows Program at Quest University Canada offers recent Ph.D.’s the opportunity to teach small, intensive seminar-style courses on the block system. (The block system is a one-course-at-a-time model in which a particular course is taught 3 hours per day, 5 days per week, for three and a half weeks). The program encourages scholars to develop and refine effective teaching strategies in an environment that encourages collaboration and reflection across disciplinary boundaries. Fellows have the option to receive a twelve-month appointment (August 2, 2017-August 1, 2018) or a condensed nine-month appointment (August 2, 2017-May 2, 2018) to teach six courses in Quest’s innovative curriculum, with an option to renew for a second contract based on satisfactory performance.

To help prepare Fellows for faculty careers, Quest offers the opportunity to work with a designated faculty mentor, take part in faculty seminars on pedagogy, and sit in on classes run by experienced university faculty. New Fellows will receive an orientation before the beginning of the academic year and will be supervised by Quest’s Professional Development Coordinator.

Fellows receive a salary of $53,500 and full medical benefits during the period of their contract; in addition, they have access to $3000 for moving and start up expenses.

We will accept applications on a rolling basis until the position is filled. We will begin reviewing applications on April 24, 2017.

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to humfaculty@questu.ca. Please send all files as one PDF.

Before applying:
Fellows will teach six blocks (classes) during the academic year, with a maximum of four preparations.

For the academic year 2016-17, we are particularly interested in candidates who can teach Spanish language and Hispanic culture courses to liberal arts and sciences students. The successful candidate will also be asked to teach one of our milestone courses, most likely ‘Cornerstone’ or ‘Rhetoric’; additionally, they will offer courses in English in the Humanities Foundation and Concentration.

Preference will be given to candidates who can teach 6 blocks; however, candidates interested in teaching one or several blocks may also be considered, with corresponding arrangements for a partial Fellowship. Please visit our web site (http://www.questu.ca/) and course catalogue (https://questu.ca/downloads/documents/Registrar/2016/COURSE-CATALOG-2016-2017.pdf) for course descriptions.

The application must include:

1. Your current curriculum vitae

2. Letter of application that addresses all aspects of your qualifications, including:
   - The status of your dissertation, if you have not completed your Ph.D.
   - How you are qualified to teach Spanish language and culture courses, and Humanities courses in English.
   - Evidence of your intellectual flexibility and ability to collaborate across disciplines.
3. A one-page statement of teaching philosophy

4. Evidence of teaching excellence. This may include summaries of student, peer or other teaching evaluations; please do not submit individual student forms.

5. The names and contact information of 3 references. If you have not completed the Ph.D. at the time of application, you should include a letter from the chair of your committee specifying when you are expected to obtain your doctorate.

Further information:
Quest University Canada is a diverse community with students representing over 40 different countries, a range of ethnic and religious identities, sexual orientations, and we seek candidates who will help us further the goal of making Quest an inclusive campus. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority. Quest University Canada is strongly committed to employment equity and welcomes applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, Aboriginal people and persons with disabilities. Short-listed candidates may be asked for their consent to obtain verification of their job qualifications from the relevant institutions and persons; they may also be asked for their consent to allow Quest to speak to past and present employment or academic supervisors.